UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE Washington, D.C. 20231

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Patent TH-2306-02 (US) HS

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of)
PAUL M. McALLISTER ET AL)
Serial No. 10/815,276)
Filed April 1, 2004) Group Art Unit:
REACTOR SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR THE) Examiner:
MANUFACTURE OF ETYLENE OXIDE) December 16, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

<u>PETITION UNDER RULE 1.78</u>

The Applicant hereby requests consideration of this Petition Under Rule 1.78.

The undersigned recently became aware that the old practice of being able to insert a cross reference to a prior U.S. application by requesting such in the patent application transmittal form was changed by the new amendment practice effective July 30, 2003. It was at this time that the undersigned reviewed this patent application and found out that the amendment to include the required cross reference to the U.S. application serial number 10/431,035 had only been requested at the time of filing in the transmittal form. undersigned states that this error to include a preliminary amendment along with the filing was unintentional and that the entire delay in submitting this amendment was unintentional. The Applicant requests that the amendment of the specification in the amendment filed concurrently herewith be accepted.

//HS/AMDS/TH2306-02 Claim to Priority Alternative Petition

The Applicant requests that the fee of \$1,370.00 for filing this petition and any fee/surcharge required for late filing of the amendment to include the cross reference to the prior application be charged to Shell Oil Company Deposit Account 19-1800.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL M. Mcallister et al

P. O. Box 2463 Houston, Texas 77252-2463

Attorney, Richard F. Lemuth Registration No. 30,081 (713) 241-3716